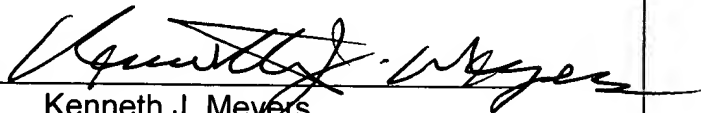


application. Applicants submit that this application conforms to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821 - 1.825, and is in condition for examination on the merits.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:   
Kenneth J. Meyers  
Reg. No. 25,146

Date: May 9, 2000

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